

# LOBBYING EDUCATION: PART I

## LOBBYING ETHICS

- I. ROLE OF THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
- II. REQUESTING ADVICE
- III. GIFT BAN & GIFT BAN EXCEPTIONS
- IV. ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS & RESTRICTIONS

# ROLE OF THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION-ETHICS ACT

I. Financial Disclosure—Receive & Evaluate
Statements of Economic Interest

- II. Educate Persons Subject to Act
- III. Provide Advice to Persons Subject to Act
  - A. Conflicts of Interest
  - B. Acceptance of Gifts
  - C. Use of Title in Advertising
- IV. Receive and Investigate Complaints

# ROLE OF THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION-LOBBYING LAW

## **INTERPRETATION**

Issue Advice & Formal Advisory Opinions as to All Chapters of 120C

Adopt Rules

## **EDUCATION**

**Conduct Lobbying Education** 

Issue Newsletters

### **INVESTIGATION**

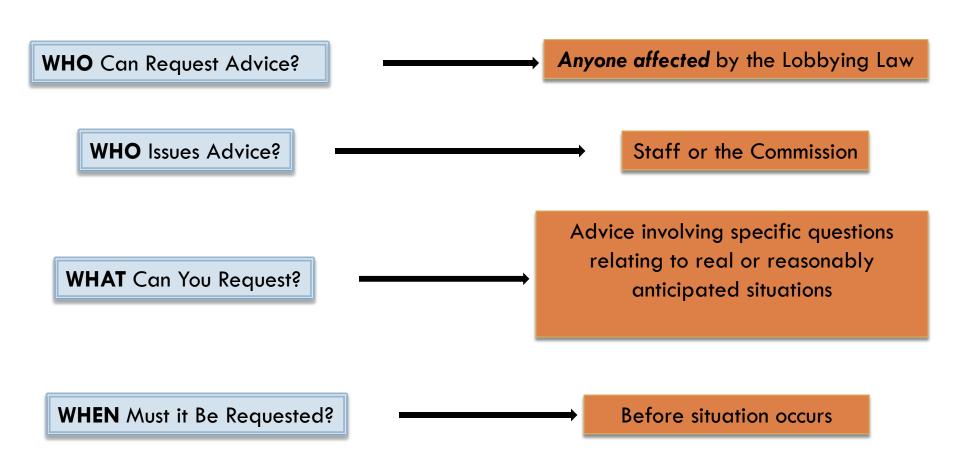
Investigate Alleged Violations of Lobbying Law, Including:

- ➢ Gift Ban
- "Cooling Off" Period
- Other Restrictions

Refer Alleged Violations to Secretary of State

- Registration
- Reporting

## REQUESTING ADVICE



# INFORMAL ADVICE vs. FORMAL ADVISORY OPINIONS

	INFORMAL ADVICE	FORMAL ADVISORY OPINION
Request	Written or Verbal	Must be Written
Advice	Issued by Staff	Issued by State Ethics Commission
Confidential	Yes	Yes
Immunity	No	Yes
Redacted Advice Published	No	<ul> <li>Yes</li> <li>Must Publish on Website in Edited Format.</li> <li>Must Share Unedited Lobbying Opinions with Secretary of State.</li> </ul>

# INFORMAL ADVICE vs. FORMAL ADVISORY OPINIONS

Nature of Immunity Resulting from Ethics Commission Formal Advisory Opinion:

- Investigation by the Commission
- Adverse Action by the Employing Entity
- Investigation by the Secretary of State

When & to Whom Does Gift Ban Apply?

What Are the Exceptions?

## GIFT BAN: UNLESS THERE IS AN EXCEPTION

## LOBBYISTS & LOBBYIST PRINCIPALS

Cannot Knowingly Give a Gift (Directly or Indirectly) To "Designated Individuals"

- Legislators
- Legislative Employees
- Public Servants

#### LIAISON PERSONNEL

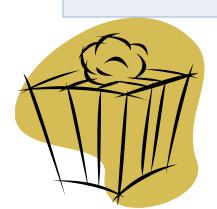
Cannot Knowingly Give a Gift (Directly or Indirectly) To:

- Legislators
- Legislative Employees

#### "INTERESTED PERSONS"

Designated Individual Cannot Knowingly Accept Gift, (Directly or Indirectly), from:

Interested Person



Gift Ban Applies 24/7/365

## WHAT IS A "GIFT"?

- "Anything of Monetary Value"
- Given Without Valuable Consideration
- Gift Ban Applies to Direct and Indirect Gifts

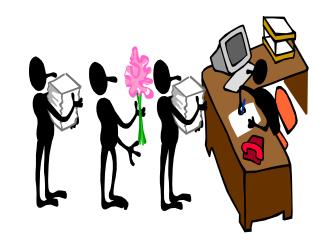
No De Minimis Exception





## WHAT IS A "GIFT"?

- Gift Ban Applies Where A Designated Individual is the <u>Ultimate Recipient</u>
- It Does Not Apply to Gifts to State Entities for Official Use
  - ✓ Equipment
  - Publications
  - ✓ Conference Space



## WHAT IS NOT A "GIFT"?

- Paid Fair Market or Face Value
- Loans Made on Same Terms As Commercially Available
- Other Contractual or Commercial Arrangements
- Academic/Athletic Scholarships
- Items Reported Under Election Law
- Expressions of Condolence

Cards, Letters, Notes,
 E-mails, etc.
 (Commission determination)



## "INDIRECT GIFTS"

Restricted Donor May Not Give Gift



To An Intermediary, Including State





With the Intent That ANY Designated Individual



Be An Ultimate Recipient

(Unless Exception Applies)

## "INDIRECT GIFTS"

#### AO-L-12-002

- Indirect Gift Ban Applied to Donations Made by Restricted Donors to Sponsor Ticketed Event:
  - ✓ If Those Donors Intended That Any Designated Individual Be "An Ultimate Recipient" of Sponsorship
- Even if Event Host Not Subject to the Gift Ban (the State, a Non-Lobbyist Principal)
- A Gift Ban Exception Must Apply Before Complimentary Admission Provided to Designated Individual

## WHO ARE DESIGNATED INDIVIDUALS?

#### Legislators

- Members of the General Assembly
- Individuals Elected or Appointed to General Assembly Before Taking Office
- Candidates Once Notice of Candidacy Filed

#### Legislative Employees

- Employees
- Consultants & Committee Counsel
- Interns

NOT included: Nonsupervisory Facility Maintenance & Food Services Staff, Pages

## WHO ARE DESIGNATED INDIVIDUALS?

#### **Public Servants**

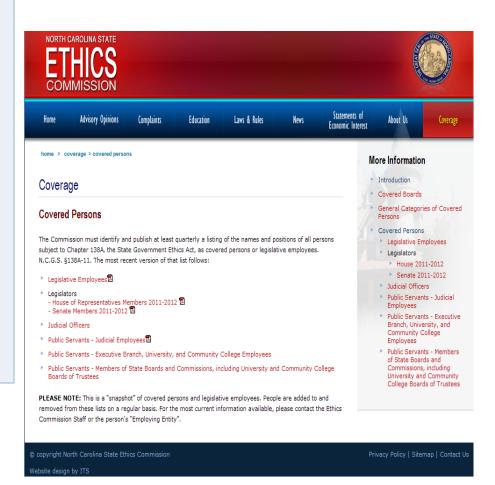
- Council of State, Including Individuals Elected or Appointed Prior to Taking Office & Candidates
- Heads of Principal State Departments
- All Governor's Office Employees
- Policy-Making Exempt Positions, Chief Deputies, Confidential Assistants
- Others as Designated by Governor
- Certain UNC & Community College Officials & Members of Board of Governors & Boards of Trustees
- Voting members of State Non-Advisory Boards

## WHO ARE DESIGNATED INDIVIDUALS?

List available on Commission's website at

www.ethicscommission.nc.gov

or by calling (919) 715-2071



## **GIFT BAN EXCEPTIONS \*\***

N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e)

- FOOD & BEVERAGE FOR "IMMEDIATE CONSUMPTION"
- II. MEETINGS & CONFERENCES
- III. NON-PARTISAN ORGANIZATIONS
- IV. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS
- v. FAMILY, FRIENDS, OTHERS
- VI. UNC ATHLETIC TICKETS

\*\*Even if Allowed by Exception, May Still Be Reportable

### FOOD & BEVERAGE:

Open Meetings & Gatherings Open to Public N.C.G.S. 138A-32(e)(1)



## Food & Beverage for "Immediate Consumption"



#### **Open Meeting of Public Body**

Properly noticed under the Open Meetings Law

N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e)(1)a



## Gathering Open to the General Public

- √ 10 or more attendees
- ✓ Sign or other Communication Outside Gathering Indicating Open to the Public

N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e)(1)b

#### **FOOD & BEVERAGE:**

## Specific Invitees N.C.G.S. 138A-32(e)(1)c



#### Food & Beverage for Immediate Consumption

Invite "Qualifying Group"

- All House or Senate members;
- All Members of County or Municipal Legislative Delegation;
- Recognized Caucus;
- Committee/Commission of General Assembly;
- All Legislative Employees; or
- Public Servant's Entire Board or at Least 10 Public Servants.

<u>AND</u>

At Least 10 People

Associated With Sponsor(s)

Attend; or All
Shareholders, Employees,
Bd. Members, Officers,
Members, Subscribers
Located in NC are
Invited.

## **FOOD & BEVERAGE: INVITE**



- Sent 24 Hours in Advance
- Include Date, Time & Location of Event
- Include Statement That "Gathering Permitted"
  Under Section

### FOOD & BEVERAGE

## "Official Duty" for Public Servants N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e)(12)

- Food & Beverage for Immediate Consumption
- Organized gathering where
  - Public Servant's Attendance is Primarily Related to Public Position and
  - 10 Individuals other than Public Servant or Immediate Family Attend or
  - ✓ All Individuals connected with Sponsor(s) in Specific NC Office or County are Notified & Invited.



## MEETINGS & CONFERENCES N.C.G.S. 138A-32(e)(3)(i)-(iv)



### Lobbyist Principal (not Lobbyist or Interested Person)

Expenditures for Food &
Beverage, Travel, Registration,
Lodging, Incidental Items of
Nominal Value, Incidental
Entertainment.

#### Categories of Meetings:

- "Educational" Meeting (primarily related to public duties; see 30 NCAC 07C .0101);
- Designated Individual is a "bona fide speaker or panel member";
- Attendance at Meeting of
  Nonpartisan Organization
  Where Agency is a Member or
  Designated Individual a
  Member Due to Public Position.

#### **MEETINGS & CONFERENCES**

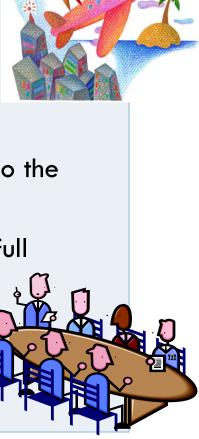


- Meeting has Formal Agenda, Notice Given at Least 10 Days in Advance, and Attended by at Least 10 Participants
- Food, Beverage, Transportation & Entertainment Must Be:
  - ✓ Provided to All Attendees or Defined Groups of 10 or More; and,
  - ✓ Part of or In Conjunction with Meeting
- Entertainment Must be Incidental to the Principal Agenda

## WHAT IS AN "EDUCATIONAL" MEETING?

#### Commission-Adopted Criteria Considers:

- The Type of Individual or Entity Hosting Meeting?
- Primary Purpose to Influence Or to Promote Learning for Professional Improvement Notwithstanding a Particular Executive or Legislative Action?
- Is Lobbyist Principal Paying for Meeting Expenditures Also the Meeting Sponsor or Co-Sponsor?
- Meeting Agenda/Length (Diverse Topics and Speakers, Full Agenda, Limited Entertainment and Meals)?
- Location (Raleigh, NYC, Fiji)?



#### MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Reimbursable Expenses for Public Servants N.C.G.S. §138A-32(f)



Applies ONLY to Public Servants & NOT legislators or legislative employees.

- Any Expense That Would Otherwise Be Reimbursable by the State if
  - ✓ Public Servant Received Approval in Advance from Employing Entity to Accept the Expense on Behalf of the State
- Actual Expense May Exceed State Rate

#### Nonpartisan Agency Organizations:

Gifts Made Directly to Organization N.C.G.S. §120C-303(d) and (e)

Both Direct and Indirect Gifts are Allowed if They Are:

- Made by a Lobbyist or Lobbyist Principal <u>Directly to</u>
- Nonpartisan State, Regional, National, or International Organization of which
- Agency is a Member or
- Designated Individual is a Member or Participant by Virtue of Public Position





## INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

N.C.G.S. 138a-32(e)(2)

- Informational Materials
   Relevant to Designated
   Individual's Public Duties
  - ✓ Books
  - ✓ DVDs
  - ✓ Magazines
  - Newspapers



## FAMILY, FRIENDS, & OTHERS

Extended Family

N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e)(7)

- Gifts to Extended Family Member
- Still Subject to Reporting



# FAMILY, FRIENDS & OTHERS: Other Relationships N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e)(10)

Gifts based on Business, Civic, Religious, Fraternal, Personal, or Commercial Relationship Permitted <u>if</u>:

- Relationship is Not Related to the DI's Public Position and
- Reasonable PersonWould Conclude notGiven for "Lobbying"



## Plaques & Non-Monetary Mementos

N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e)(4)

 A Plaque or Similar Non-Monetary Memento
 Recognizing Designated
 Individual's Services in a
 Field or Specialty or to a
 Charitable Cause



#### **UNC SYSTEM ATHLETIC TICKETS**

N.C.G.S. 120C-502(e)

- UNC Board of Governors, UNC Constituent Institutions, or their Legislative Liaisons
- Cannot Give Designated Individuals
- Athletic Tickets
- For Lobbying (Direct Lobbying or Goodwill Lobbying)

## HONORARIA N.C.G.S. 138A-32(h)

- Acceptance Restricted From All Donors (Not Limited to L, LP, IP Donors)
- If Legislator, Legislative Employee, Judicial Officer or Public Servant:
  - ✓ Invited Because of Public Position
  - ✓ Used State Resources or Reimbursed by State, or
  - ✓ Used State Time
- But, May Reimburse Agency for Expenses or Pay Fee



## **GIFT BAN REMINDERS**

Gift Ban Applies at All Times



 Commission May Designate other Boards and Commissions as Covered by the State Ethics Act

Check the Commission's Website to Determine if Designated Individual = Covered by Gift Ban

Even if Allowed to Give, May Need to Report

# OTHER REQUIREMENTS & RESTRICTIONS

# LOBBYING LAW REQUIREMENTS & RESTRICTIONS

- Lobbyist Must Identify Him/Herself as a Lobbyist and Disclose Identity of LP Prior to Any Lobbying Communication or Activity With DI N.C.G.S. §120C-201(e)
- Lobbyist Cannot Accept a Fee Contingent Upon the Outcome of Lobbying N.C.G.S. §120C-300
  - Exception for Sales People Whose Regular Remuneration Agreement Includes Commissions Based on Sales

 Lobbyist Cannot Serve as Campaign Treasurer or Assistant Campaign Treasurer for a Political Committee for Legislator or Constitutional Officer

Lobbyist Cannot Allow a DI or a DI's Immediate Family to Use Lobbyist's Cash or Credit, Unless Lobbyist Present

N.C.G.S. §120C-305 (\*\*But Don't Forget gift ban\*\*)

Lobbyist Ineligible for Appointment To State Board Which has Regulatory Authority Over Entity Lobbyist Currently Represents or Has Within 120 Days after Lobbyist's Registration Expired



### "Cooling Off Period" N.C.G.S. §120C-304

The Following Cannot Be Lobbyists:

- Legislator or Former Legislator
  - ✓ While in Office; or
  - ✓ Before the Later of:
    - ✓ The Close of the Session (Sine Die) In Which the Legislator Served or
    - ✓ Six Months After Leaving Office
- Constitutional Officers and Heads of Principal State Departments
  - ✓ While in Office or Employed, or
  - Within 6 Months Thereafter



### "Cooling Off Period" N.C.G.S. §120C-304

Former State Agency Employee Cannot Become
 A Lobbyist to Lobby That Agency



- Within Six Months After
  - √ Voluntary Separation or
  - ✓ Separation for Cause
- If Former Employee Registers Within 6 Months of Separation, Must Identify Former Agency N.C.G.S. §120C-200(f)



# LOBBYING EDUCATION: PART II

# REGISTRATION

- ➤ Who Must Register?
- When Must Individuals Register?



# Who Must Register?

- ✓ Liaison Personnel
- ✓ Local Government Liaisons
- ✓ Lobbyists
- ✓ Lobbyist Principals
- √ Solicitors



#### LIAISON PERSONNEL MUST REGISTER

N.C.G.S. §120C-500, -501 and -502

- State Employee, Approved Contract Counsel, Officer
- Local Government Employee
- Engaged in Lobbying Legislators or Legislative Employees
  - ✓ NOT a "Lobbyist"
  - ✓ "Cooling Off" Period Does Not Apply. AO-L-11-005
  - State or Local Entity is NOT a Lobbyist Principal
  - ✓ Liaison Must Register and Report Gifts, Reportable Expenditures.
  - ✓ Gift Ban Applies Only to Gifts from Liaison to Legislators and Legislative Employees

# A "LOBBYIST" MUST REGISTER

## Who is a Lobbyist?

Individual Who Engages in Lobbying

For Payment\$\$



### WHAT IS "LOBBYING?"

N.C.G.S. §120C-100(a)(9) a. and b.

### "Direct" Lobbying

- Direct Communications or Activities
- With a Designated Individual or Designated Individual's Immediate Family Member
- Designed to Influence "Legislative" or "Executive" Action

#### "Goodwill" Lobbying

- Developing Goodwill Through Communications and Activities, Including the Building of Relationships
- With a Designated Individual or Designated Individual's Immediate Family Member
- With the Intention of Influencing Current or Future "Legislative" or "Executive" Action

# COMMUNICATIONS OR ACTIVITIES WITH A DI OR DI'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY

## Designated Individuals

- Legislators, Legislative Employees
- ➤ Public servants (N.C.G.S. §138A-3(30))
- Candidates for General Assembly and Council of State Upon Filing of Notice of Candidacy (N.C.G.S. § 120C-104)

# DESIGNED TO INFLUENCE LEGISLATIVE ACTION N.C.G.S. §120C-100(a)(5)

#### Legislative Action:

- Steps in the Legislative Process Taken by a Legislator or Legislative Employee:
  - ✓ Preparation Introduction Consideration Passage or Rejection of
  - ✓ Bill Resolution Amendment Motion

Also Includes Consideration of any Bill by the Governor for Approval or Veto

# DESIGNED TO INFLUENCE EXECUTIVE ACTION N.C.G.S. §120C-100(a)(3)

#### **Executive Action:**

Official Actions Taken by a Public Servant

✓ Consider – Prepare – Approve – Postpone – Reject

✓ Policy - Procedure - Guideline - Rule - RFP - Invitation for Bid

### **NOT "EXECUTIVE ACTION"**

N.C.G.S.§ 120C-100(a)(3)a.-b.

### **Exempt from Definition of Executive Action:**

- 150B Contested Case Proceedings
- Applying for a Permit, License, Determination of Eligibility or Certification
- Inquiring about a Benefit, Claim, Right, Obligation, Duty, Entitlement, Payment, or Penalty
- Inquiring About or Responding to an RFP Under Ch.

143

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### **NOT "EXECUTIVE ACTION"**

N.C.G.S.§ 120C-100(a)(3)c.-e.

Internal Administrative Functions



- Ministerial Functions
- Public Servant's Communication About
  - Public or Written Comments Made at an Open Meeting in Response to a Request for Public Comment if
    - ✓ Identity of Person on Whose Behalf Comments are Made is Disclosed as Part of Public Participation <u>and</u>
    - ✓ No Reportable Expenditure is Made

## **WHAT IS "PAYMENT?"**

Firm-Employed Lobbyist — Employed by a Firm and Lobbies for Entity or Individual That Hired Firm N.C.G.S. 120C-100(a)(10)b.

Contract Lobbyist – Contracts With Lobbyist Principal for Payment for Lobbying

N.C.G.S. 120C-100(a)(10)c.

## WHAT IS PAYMENT?



- Employee Lobbyist Employee And a "Significant Part" of Duties Include Lobbying
  - Significant Part = Employee's Actual Duties Include Either
    - √ 5% or More of Direct Lobbying in any 30-Day Period
    - √ 5% or More of Goodwill Lobbying in any 30-Day Period

## WHO IS NOT A "LOBBYIST"?

N.C.G.S.§ 120C-700

- Expressing A Personal Opinion & Not A "Lobbyist"
- By Invitation of Committee Member, No Further Lobbying Activities With Respect to That Action
- Governmental Officials & Employees When Acting Solely in Connection with Matters Pertaining to Their Public Duties
- News Media
- Designated Individuals Acting in Their Official Capacity
- Persons Performing Professional Services in Drafting Bills
- Person Responding to Inquiries from a Designated Individual, No Further Lobbying Activities
- Political Committee as defined in N.C.G.S. §163-278.6(14)

#### A LOBBYIST PRINCIPAL MUST REGISTER

N.C.G.S. §120C-100(a)(11)

- Entity, Individual, or Governmental Unit on Whose Behalf the Lobbyist Lobbies and Who Pays for the Lobbying
- If Lobbyist Paid by a Firm Retained By the Entity, Individual, or Governmental Unit, the Principal is the Person Whose Interests the Lobbyist Represents
- If the Lobbyist is Retained by an Organization or Association, the Principal is the Organization or Association, Not Its Members

## "SOLICITATION OF OTHERS"

N.C.G.S. §120C-101(a)(13)



#### What Is Solicitation of Others?

- Request That Members of the Public
- Communicate With Designated Individuals
- For purpose of:
  - ✓ Influencing Legislative or Executive Action
  - ✓ To Further Solicitor's Position
- Includes:
  - Broadcasts (T.V. and Radio)
  - ✓ E-Mail, Telephone, Letter
  - Website Posting
  - Print Media
  - Conference or Meeting

# SOLICITATION OF OTHERS N.C.G.S. §120C-215



# Person not Otherwise Required to Register and Report Must Register & Report When

- Total Expenses for "Solicitation of Others"
- Exceeds \$3,000 During any 90-Day Period

#### **Excludes**

- Any Communication Made to the Person's Stockholders, Employees, Board Members, Officers, Members, Subscribers
- Communications with Those Who Have Agreed to Receive Regular Publications or Notices

### LOBBYIST REGISTRATION AND FEES

N.C.G.S. §120C-200; -201

- Must Register with Secretary of State within One Business Day of Lobbying.
- Employee Lobbyist Must Register Within One Business Day of Reaching 5% Threshold.
- Lobbyist Must File a Separate Registration for Each Principal.
- \$250 fee for Each Registration

#### LOBBYIST PRINCIPAL AUTHORIZATION AND FEE

N.C.G.S. §120C-206

LP Must File Authorization Within 20 Business Days after Lobbyist Registers

> \$250 Fee

Must File Amended Authorization Form within 10 Business Days of any Change in Information Provided on Registration Form

# WHAT MUST BE REPORTED?

- Reporting of Gifts
- Reporting of RE for Lobbying
- Reporting of Payment for Services

# WHAT DOES A LOBBYIST PRINCIPAL REPORT? N.C.G.S. §120C-403(b)

#### Lobbyist Principal Reports What the Principal Paid for:

- "Reportable Expenditures" Made for Lobbying Over \$10 in Value Per DI Per Day
- "Reportable Expenditures" Reimbursed to Lobbyist Which the Lobbyist Did Not Report
- "Solicitation of Others" Expenditures in Excess of \$3,000
- Gifts Over \$10 in Value
- Payments to Lobbyists for Lobbying and for Certain Communications and Activities Used to Lobby
- Name of Each Person or Governmental Unit to Whom the Lobbyist Principal "Loaned" its Lobbyist

# WHAT DOES A LOBBYIST REPORT? N.C.G.S. §120C-402(b)

Lobbyist Reports What the Lobbyist Paid for and Was Not Reimbursed

- ✓ "Reportable Expenditures" made for Lobbying
- "Solicitation of Others" Costs Over \$3,000 and That the Lobbyist Paid For and Was Not Reimbursed
- ✓ Gifts Over \$10 in Value That the Lobbyist Paid For and Was
  Not Reimbursed

# WHAT DOES A LIAISON REPORT? N.C.G.S. §120C-402(b)

- Liaison Reports What the Liaison Paid For and Was Not Reimbursed
  - "Reportable Expenditures" Made for Lobbying
  - ✓ Gifts Over \$10 in Value That the Liaison Paid For and Was
    Not Reimbursed

# WHAT IS A "REPORTABLE EXPENDITURE?" N.C.G.S. §120C-100(a)(12)

- Anything of Value Greater Than \$10 Per DI or DI's Immediate Family Member Per Calendar Day (Separately or Cumulatively)
- Contracts, Agreements, Promises, Whether or Not Legally Enforceable
- That is Directly or Indirectly Made to, at the Request of, for the Benefit of, or on Behalf of DI or DI's immediate family

#### WHAT IS A REPORTABLE EXPENDITURE?

- Gifts Given to a DI by a Lobbyist, Lobbyist Principal, or a Liaison With Value Greater than \$10 per DI per Calendar Day
  - ✓ LP "(e)(10)" Gifts are Not Required to Be Reported Until the Value is Greater than \$200
- Expenditures Greater Than \$10/Day That Are Not Gifts But Are Made for Lobbying
  - Made at the Request of or On Behalf of DI or DI's Immediate Family Or
  - Made for the Benefit of Immediate Family

#### WHAT IS A REPORTABLE EXPENDITURE?

### **Expenditures That Are Made for Lobbying**

- Overhead Expenses Connected with Events Held for Lobbying 30 NCAC 10C.0302
  - ✓ Planning and Organizing Services
  - ✓ Outside Printing Services
  - √ Facility Rental
  - ✓ Name Badges
  - Flowers and other Decorations



### REPORT DETAILS

N.C.G.S. §120C-401(b) and §120-401(c)

#### For Each Reportable Expenditure Must Include:

- > Fair Market Value or Face Value of Expenditure
- The Date of the Expenditure
- > A Description of the Expenditure 30 NCAC 10C.0104
- > The Name and Address of the Payee or Beneficiary
- The Name of Any DI and That DI's Immediate Family Member Connected with the Expenditure
- Category of Reportable Expenditure

# REPORTING NAMES OF DI'S AND DI IMMEDIATE FAMILY

N.C.G.S. §120C-401(b)(5); 30 NCAC 10C.0105

- Report the Names of Any DI and any DI Immediate Family Member "Connected With" the Reportable Expenditure
  - DI or IF That Received or Benefited From the Reportable Expenditure
  - DI or IF That Requested the Reportable Expenditure
  - ✓ DI or IF On Whose Behalf the Reportable Expenditure Was Made

#### **EXCEPTIONS TO REPORTING NAMES**

N.C.G.S. §120C-401(b1)-(b2)

- When More Than 15 Dl's Benefit From or Request a Reportable Expenditure, May Report:
  - Approximate Number Benefiting or Requesting
  - Description of the Group
  - Approximate # of DI Family Members Benefiting Must be Listed Separately
- If Gift Given With Intent That Any DI be An Ultimate Recipient and L or LP Does Not Know Name(s) of Recipient(s), May Report:
  - Description of DI and Family That Clearly Distinguishes its Purpose or Composition
  - Approximate Number If Known

#### REPORTABLE EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES

N.C.G.S. §120C-401(c)

# Reportable Expenditures Must Be Reported Using the Following Categories:

- Transportation and lodging
- ✓ Entertainment
- ✓ Food and Beverages
- Meetings and Events
- ✓ Gifts
- Other Reportable Expenditures

# ANNUAL REPORTING OF PAYMENTS TO A LOBBYIST FOR LOBBYING

N.C.G.S. §120C-403(d) and (e)

In the Last Report a Lobbyist Principal Files for the Registration Year it Must Report the Cumulative Combined Total of All Payments to a Lobbyist for:

- Lobbying, Direct and Goodwill
- Communications and Activities That Were Used to Lobby
  - ✓ Research
  - ✓ Drafting of Written Communications
  - ✓ Monitoring of Proposed or Pending Legislative or Executive Action
  - ✓ Time Spent Advising and Rendering Opinions to LP as to
    Construction and Effect of Proposed or Pending Legislative or
    Executive Action

### **PAYMENT**

N.C.G.S. §120C-100(a)(11k)

#### **Defined As:**

- > Any Money, Thing of Value, or Economic Benefit
  - Conveyed to a Lobbyist
  - ✓ For Lobbying
- Excludes Reimbursement of:
  - Actual travel
  - Administrative Expenses
  - ✓ Subsistence



## FILING DEADLINES

N.C.G.S. §120C-401(e)-(f)

2013 Expense Report Due Dates	
Reporting Periods	Due Date
January 2013 Monthly*	February 14, 2013
February 2013 Monthly*	March 14, 2013
1st Quarter 2013	April 19, 2013
April 2013 Monthly*	May 14, 2013
May 2013 Monthly*	June 14, 2013
2nd Quarter 2013	July 22, 2013
July 2013 Monthly*	August 14, 2013
August 2013 Monthly*	September 13, 2013
3rd Quarter 2013	October 21, 2013
4ւհ Quarter 2013	January 23, 2014

# INVESTIGATIONS & VIOLATION CONSEQUENCES



## **JURISDICTION**

#### N.C.G.S.§ 120C-601 through -603

#### **State Ethics Commission:**

Investigate Complaints of Violations of Ch. 120C, Except for Matters Related Solely to Art. 2, 4, & 8

#### Secretary of State:

- Perform Systematic Reviews of Reports Filed by L & LP
- Investigate Complaints of Violations Related Solely to Articles 2, 4, & 8

# Violation Consequences N.C.G.S.§ 120C-602

#### **Criminal**

- Class 1 Misdemeanor for:
  - ✓ Failure to Register (Art. 2)
  - ✓ Violation of Gift Ban
  - Miscellaneous Prohibitions/Restrictions in Art. 3
- If Convicted, Cannot Lobby for 2 Years

#### Civil

Secretary of State or Commission May Levy Civil Fines for Violations Of Ch. 120C Up to \$5,000/Violation

# UNTIMELY FILING 120C-401(e) and (f)

- Failure to Timely File
  - ✓ Secretary of State Must Send Certified Letter
  - 20 Days to File Report and Pay Late Fee of \$50/day Maximum of \$500
- Failure to File after Notice Voids Registration

# STATE ETHICS COMMISSION Contact Information

#### Location:

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